

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A system for fastening, by welding, a component to a motor vehicle fuel tank, the system comprising:

a component including a portion with a conical surface profile, the component including a tubular shape;

a tank with an opening, a perimeter of which opening includes a conical surface profile; and

a welded area between at least one portion of the conical surface of the perimeter of the opening in the tank and at least one portion of the conical surface of the component,

wherein the perimeter of the opening of the tank is a deformed portion of a wall of the tank,

wherein the component and the tank are molded in one or more molds including impressions corresponding to the conical surfaces,

wherein the tank and component each include a multilayer structure and, along the entire surface where the component is fastened to the tank, a number of superposed layers is equal to a sum of a number of layers in the component and a number of layers in the tank, and

wherein the multilayer structure includes at least two layers of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) between which a layer comprising an ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymer (EVOH) is inserted.

Claim 12-15 (Canceled).



Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 11, wherein the component includes at least one of a plate, a delivery tube, a fitting, a spout, a valve, or any other accessory of the fuel tank.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A fuel system comprising a fuel tank and at least one accessory fastened to the fuel tank by the fastening system according to Claim 11.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A method of manufacturing a fuel system, comprising:

manufacturing a tank comprising an opening, a perimeter of which has a conical surface profile, ~~the component including a tubular shape~~, the perimeter of the opening being made by deforming a wall of the tank;

manufacturing a component including a part with a conical surface profile, the component including a tubular shape; and

welding at least one portion of the conical surface of the perimeter of the opening in the tank to at least one portion of the conical surface of the component, and

wherein the tank and the component are manufactured by molding by using one or more molds including impressions corresponding to the conical surfaces,

wherein the tank and component each include a multilayer structure and, along the entire surface where the component is fastened to the tank, a number of superposed layers is equal to a sum of a number of layers in the component and a number of layers in the tank, and



wherein the multilayer structure includes at least two layers of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) between which a layer comprising an ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymer (EVOH) is inserted.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the welding is hot-plate welding using self-centering hot plates or a robotic system optionally controlled by a camera.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 11, wherein the wall of the tank includes a bent portion defining the perimeter of the opening of the tank.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 21, wherein the conical surface of the perimeter of the opening in the tank comprises a cavity that receives the conical surface profile of the component.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 21, wherein the conical surface of the perimeter of the opening in the tank protrudes from a portion of the tank wall in a direction toward the component.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 21, wherein the thickness of a wall portion of the tank forming the conical surface of the tank is a



same thickness as a thickness of a wall portion of the tank surrounding the conical surface of the tank.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 18, wherein the wall of the tank includes a bent portion defining the perimeter of the opening of the tank.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 25, wherein the conical surface of the perimeter of the opening in the tank comprises a cavity that receives the conical surface profile of the component.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 25, wherein the conical surface of the perimeter of the opening in the tank protrudes from a portion of the tank wall in a direction toward the component.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 25, wherein the thickness of a wall portion of the tank forming the conical surface of the tank is a same thickness as a thickness of a wall portion of the tank surrounding the conical surface of the tank.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The fastening system according to Claim 11, wherein the conical surface of the component is defined by a circular arc as viewed in a direction perpendicular to the axis of the conical surface profile.



Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The ~~fastening system~~ method according to Claim 18, wherein the conical surface of the component is defined by a circular arc as viewed in a direction perpendicular to the axis of the conical surface profile.

Claim 31 (New): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the component covers the entire opening.

Claim 32 (New): The fastening system according to Claim 25, wherein the component covers the entire opening.